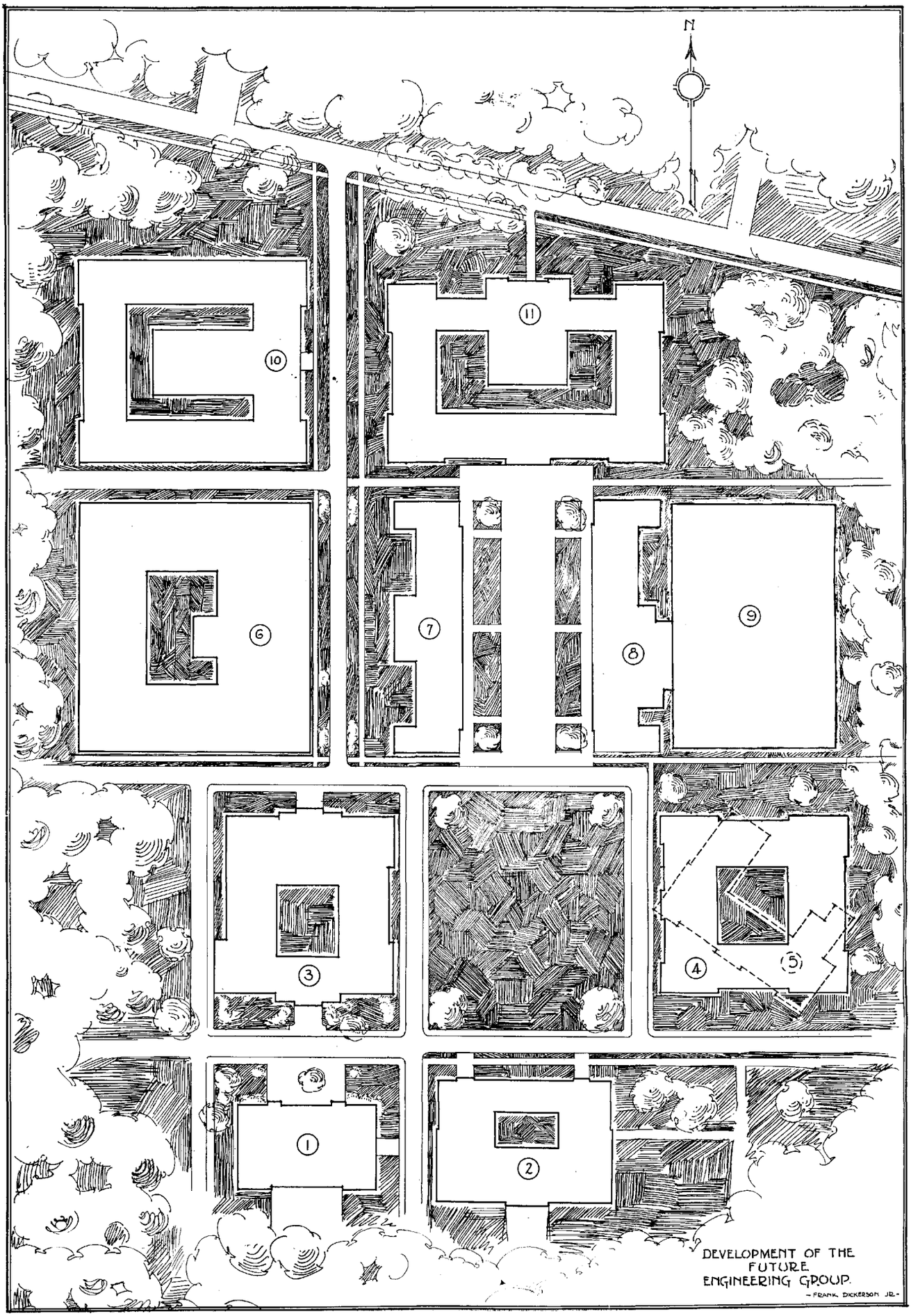
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DEVELOPMENT OF THE
FUTURE
ENGINEERING GROUP.
-FRANK DICKERSON JR.-

The Future Engineering Group

Plans for Expansion in the College of Engineering

By FRANK DICKERSON, JR., '27.

"From little acorns
Mighty oaks do grow."

The dream of the Engineering College is slowly and gradually but surely assuming a definite form. The dream of yesterday is a reality today, and has become an actuality only after many years of ceaseless toil. The project has been under way almost seven years and it will take many more to complete this extensive plan.

In studying the plot plan, the most logical starting place is with the Administration Building which is marked No. 1. This building, however, is not a part of the Engineering Group and only serves to show the location of this group with respect to the rest of the campus.

To the east of the Administration Building is the Language Building (No. 2) which will border the Engineering Quadrangle on the south and will center on the main north and south axis. This building, at the present time, is called the Chemistry Building. The University Architect's Office is now working on plans for the remodeling of and for additions to this old Chemistry Building, which, when finished, will be rectangular in the plan with a light court in the centre and four stories in height. The remodeling is expected to start as soon as the Department of Chemistry move into their new and fully equipped Chemistry Building (No. 8). In the basement will be located the University Post Office and the University Telephone Exchange.

The Language Building, as the name indicates, will house all the language departments. On its completion, the engineers will no longer have to cross the Oval, for the Department of English will transfer its offices to new quarters in the Language Building.

North of the Administration Building is Brown Hall (No. 3), which is greatly overcrowded, for it houses the Departments of Architecture, Civil Engineering, and Engineering Drawing, the University Architect's Offices, the University Photographer's Offices, classrooms and laboratories, and also the combined library of Architecture and Civil Engineering.

This building when completed will house the Administrative Offices of the College of Engineering. The plan will be rectangular in shape with a light court in the centre and the building will be four stories in height. The main entrance will then be on the east facade, the south entrance will become of less importance and will be balanced on the north by a like means of egress.

East from Brown Hall, across the grassy portion of the Quadrangle, is Lord Hall (No. 5), which is shown on the plot plan with a dotted line. This building brings up a problem for which there are only two solutions; one is, to move the present building to the desired location, or, to tear it down and construct a new one. The latter solution seems to be the most plausible of the two for many reasons, one of which is that the architecture of Lord Hall will not harmonize with the architectural style that is being used on the other buildings of this group. Another reason, which is a big factor in every building, is the cost. The cost of excavating a new basement, placing footings, building foundation walls and basement floors, changing all the plumbing and pipe lines, changing the electrical, heating and ventilating

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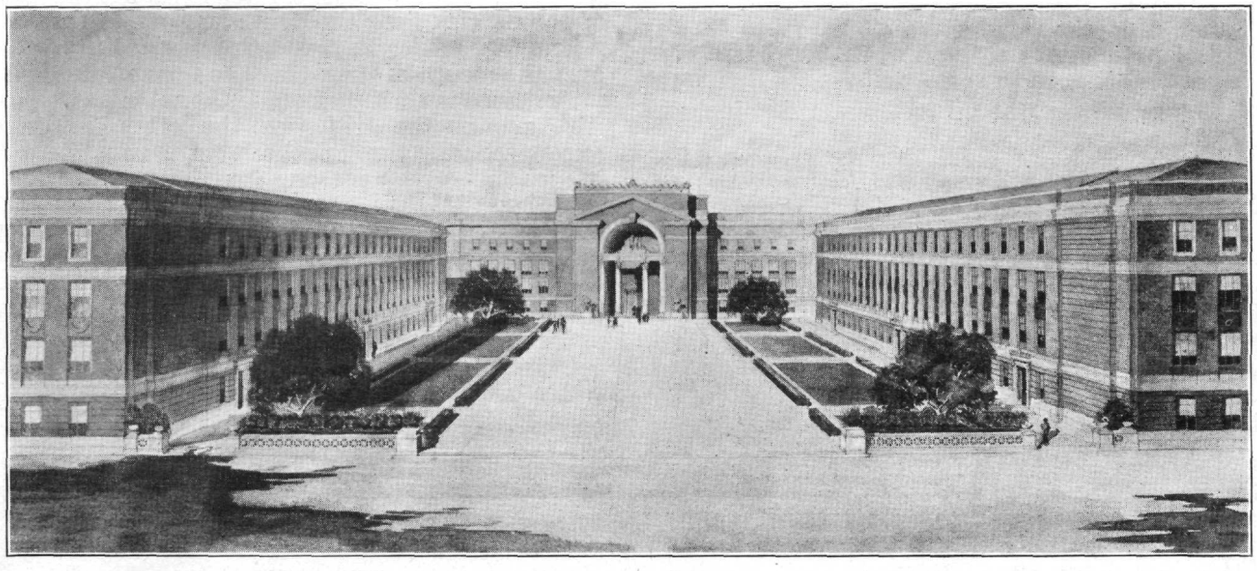

The Architect's Perspective of the Northern Section of the Quadrangle

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

(Continued from Page 5)

service, wrecking the basement and service of the present building and filling in and grading would cost as much and in all probabilities would be more expensive than the cost of a new building built up to the first floor level. Then the expense of moving the old building and adding another story would cost as much as building the first, second and third floors of a new building.

Whatever solution is used, the desired result is the building marked No. 4 on the plot plan, which is to have four stories, to be rectangular in plan with a light court in the centre, the main entrance on the west facade and minor means of egress on the north and south.

North of Brown Hall is Robinson Labratory (No. 6), in which are located the Departments of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. The present building is overcrowded due to dividing their small building into offices, classrooms and laboratories. This overcrowded condition is to be remedied in two ways: one is, by an addition which will make the building rectangular in plan with a light court in the centre. Another solution is the building east but just across the street in front of Robinson laboratory which is the new Mechanical and Electrical Building, in which will be only classrooms, draughting-rooms and the departmental offices of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering and of Mathematics. This structure will be similar in many respects to the Chemistry Building just across the paved court. The main facades of these two buildings, which will be over three hundred feet, will be exact duplicates, with three entrances on the court side, and will be four stories in height. The interior arrangements, however, will differ.

In order to make room for the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Building and the paved court the present Military Barracks Building must be wrecked and the site cleared. The Military Department should be in new quarters at some other location some time before this site will be required.

As stated before, the Chemistry Building (No. 8) will border the court on the east, and in it will be housed the Department of Chemistry with its offices, classrooms and laboratories. Just east of the new Chemistry Building, and connected by a corridor, is the one story Chemistry Laboratory Building (No. 9), devoted to laboratories and a few offices.

The Industrial Engineering Building (No. 10), which houses the Department of Industrial Engineering, will remain a two-story building, but additional wings will be added, making the plan rectangular in shape with a light court in the centre.

Spanning the north end of the Quadrangle is the Engineering Experiment Station Building (No. 11), of which the present Experiment Station is only a small portion. This structure will be the longest building of this group. It will be about three hundred and forty feet in length, and will extend from the west face of the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Building across the end of the paved court to the east face of the Chemistry Building. The Experiment Station Building will be rectangular in plan with a light court in the centre. The main entrance will be on the south facade entering from the court and centring on the main north and south axis. The Architect's perspective, showing the northern end of the Quadrangle, illustrates very clearly the elaborate entrance to the future Engineering Experiment Station Building. Like all the other buildings facing on the Quadrangle this structure will have four stories. The long portion of this building, facing the court, will be used for all the activities of the Engineering College, and will have an auditorium large enough to seat the entire Enginering College. All the small departmental libraries will be concentrated in this building into one large library.

The buildings of this group are of the classical style. If Lord Hall is replaced by a new building then all the buildings facing on the Quadrangle, with the exception of Brown Hall, will be of common red brick with an Indiana Limestone trim.

These buildings comprise the Engineering Group according to latest drawn plans. A great deal of credit, for the present and the ultimate success of this group, is due to Professor J. N. Bradford, the University Architect, and Professor C. E. Sherman, Chairman of the Engineering College Building Committee. The first thorough plan was worked out in 1922, and by having a definite plan, no time will be lost in the future in discussing the location of engineering buildings.